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Committee for Programme and Coordination
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9 June-3 July 2008
Agenda item 8
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-eighth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Stefania **Rosini** (Italy)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011
(Item 3 (b))

Programme 8
Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

1. At its 18th meeting, on 23 June 2008, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed biennial programme plan (A/63/6 (Prog. 8)).

2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Overall support was expressed for the programme and for the work of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States.

4. Concern was expressed with respect to the realignment of the Office of the High Representative and the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, and its impact on the programme. The view was expressed that the realignment was not in line with General Assembly resolution 56/227, whereby the Assembly decided to establish the Office of the High Representative.

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5. Questions were raised with regard to the mobilization and coordination of international aid. The view was expressed that limited progress had been realized, particularly for the least developed countries. The view was also expressed that support to this group of countries should be placed as a priority within the international community. The suggestion was made that assistance should be provided to those countries in the area of industrial development.

6. Under subprogramme 1, the view was expressed that while the objective was important and ambitious, the indicators of achievement did not sufficiently reflect attainment of the objective. Clarification was sought whether indicator of achievement (a) (i) really contributed to improvement of the quality of life. The view was expressed that there was no corresponding strategy in relation to indicator of achievement (a) (ii). A question was raised on how to measure indicator of achievement (b), Progress of the least developed countries on the agreed goals.

7. Under subprogramme 3, it was indicated that the medium-term review of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States was not clearly reflected in the subprogramme. A question was raised on the mobilization of international support described in the objective of the subprogramme.

Conclusions and recommendations

8. **The Committee recalled General Assembly resolution 56/227 and recommended that adequate focus and support be ensured for the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, for fulfilling its established mandate. In that context, the Committee regretted the decision to merge the Office of the High Representative and the Office of the Special Advisor on Africa without any mandate.**

9. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, of the proposed biennial programme plan, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 8.2

In subparagraph (a) (iii), at the beginning of the subparagraph, insert the words "the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and its follow-up,".

Paragraph 8.5

In subparagraph (a), after the words "as well as", insert the words "the Barbados Programme of Action and".

Subprogramme 1
Least developed countries

Strategy

Paragraph 8.6

At the end of the paragraph, add a new subparagraph, to read:

"(g) Facilitating effective participation of the least developed countries in decision-making in various intergovernmental bodies, which will contribute towards the achievement of the goals and targets of the Brussels Programme of Action".

Subprogramme 3
Small island developing States

Objective of the Organization

After the words "support for", insert the words "the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and its follow-up,".

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

In expected accomplishment (a), after the words "implementation of", insert the words "the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and its follow-up,".